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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/023,252	12/18/2001	Brian M. Scally	GB 000178	3773

24737 7590 01/16/2007

PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS

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BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, HUY THANH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2621

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/16/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/023,252

Applicant(s)

SCALLY, BRIAN M.

Examiner

HUY T. NGUYEN

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2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/18/01.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 1 and 9 are objected to because of the following informalities:
"characterised" in the claims should be changed to characterized. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-6 and 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Maturi et al (5,559,999).

Regarding claim 1, Maturi teaches a compressed-data processing arrangement comprising buffer means (20) (44-50) for receiving a stream of compressed data and de-multiplexing means (22) for retrieving navigation information (header information)embedded within the compressed data , characterized in that the said buffer means comprises a common buffer and further including pointer memory means for storing a plurality of pointers arranged to identify sectors of data in the said common buffer for

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the onward delivery of data to decoding means (column 5 line 56 to column 6, line 37).

Regarding claim 2, Maturi teaches that the common buffer and pointer memory are located in a common memory block (Figs. 3-4).

Regarding claim 3, Maturi discloses an arrangement as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the de-multiplexing means comprises a single de-multiplexer (22) arranged to provide for common processing and de-multiplexing of all data within the data stream substantially at the same time (column 5, lines 50-65).

Regarding claim 4, Maturi discloses an arrangement as claimed in Claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the pointers are arranged to identify buffer pointer off-set collections within the sectors of data stored within the common buffer (Fig. 4, column 5, line 57 to column 6 line 20).

Regarding claim 5, Maturi discloses an arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, wherein the pointers are arranged to determine the location of data sectors in the common buffer, and such that the data is then referenced by a list of pointers seeking to identify the order of the groups of sectors (column 6, lines 1-20).

Regarding claim 6, Maturi disclose an arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, when the pointer memory is arranged to include a second list of pointers serving to identify the location of packets of data and also to identify the data contained therein (column 6, line 20-48).

Method claims 9-13 Correspond to apparatus claims 1-6. Therefore method claims 9-13 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claims 1-6.

4. Claims 1-7 and 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Willis (6222979).

Regarding claims 1 and 7, Willis et al (6222979) discloses a DVD player including a data compressing processing arrangement

Regarding claims 1 and 7, Willis discloses a DVD player and compressed-data processing arrangement (Figs. 2-3, column 3, lines 50-65, column 4, lines 27-55, column 7, line 1-55).

comprising buffer means (60) for receiving a stream of compressed data and de-multiplexing means (505) for retrieving navigation information (header information)embedded within the compressed data, characterized in that the said buffer means comprises a common buffer and further including pointer memory means (60A) for storing a plurality of pointers arranged to identify sectors of data in the said common buffer for the onward delivery of data to decoding means (columns 5 and 7, column 8, lines 38-65).

Regarding claim 2. Willis teaches that the common buffer and pointer memory are located in a common memory block (60).

Regarding claim 3, Willis discloses an arrangement as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the de-multiplexing means comprises a single de-multiplexer (22) arranged

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to provide for common processing and de-multiplexing of all data within the data stream substantially at the same time (column 4, lines 45-55).

Regarding claim 4, Willis discloses an arrangement as claimed in Claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the pointers are arranged to identify buffer pointer off-set collections within the sectors of data stored within the common buffer (column 7 1-25, column 8, lines 46-67).

Regarding claim 5, Willis discloses an arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, wherein the pointers are arranged to determine the location of data sectors in the common buffer, and such that the data is then referenced by a list of pointers seeking to identify the order of the groups of sectors (column 7, lines 1-40).

Regarding claim 6, Willis disclose an arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, when the pointer memory is arranged to include a second list of pointers serving to identify the location of packets of data and also to identify the data contained therein (column 7, lines 1-30).

Method claims 9-13 Correspond to apparatus claims 1-6. Therefore method claims 9-13 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claims 1-6.

5. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ottesen (5,721,815).

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Regarding claim 8, Ottesen discloses a set-top-box arrangement including a compressed-data processing arrangement (column 19 line 45 to column 20, line 15, Figs. 11, 19 and 20).

6. Claims 1-6 and 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamamoto et al (6,628,899).

Regarding claims 1-6 and 9-13, Yamamoto discloses including a data compressing processing arrangement

Regarding claims 1 and 7, Yamamoto discloses a compressed-data processing arrangement (Figs. 1-5).

comprising buffer means (30) for receiving a stream of compressed data and de-multiplexing means (3) for retrieving navigation information (header information)embedded within the compressed data, characterized in that the said buffer means comprises a common buffer (10) and further including pointer memory means (11) for storing a plurality of pointers arranged to identify sectors of data in the said common buffer for the onward delivery of data to decoding means (24)(columns 4-5).

Regarding claim 2, Yamamoto teaches that the common buffer and pointer memory are located in a common memory block (30, Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 3, Yamamoto discloses an arrangement as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, wherein the de-multiplexing means (3) comprises a single de-multiplexer arranged to provide for common processing and de-multiplexing of all data within the data stream substantially at the same time (column 4, lines 55- 68).

Regarding claim 4, Yamamoto discloses an arrangement as claimed in Claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the pointers are arranged to identify buffer pointer off-set collections within the sectors of data stored within the common buffer (column 6).

Regarding claim 5, Yamamoto discloses an arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, wherein the pointers are arranged to determine the location of data sectors in the common buffer, and such that the data is then referenced by a list of pointers seeking to identify the order of the groups of sectors (column 6, lines 20-40)

Regarding claim 6, Yamamoto disclose an arrangement as claimed in any one of Claims 1-4, when the pointer memory is arranged to include a second list of pointers serving to identify the location of packets of data and also to identify the data contained therein (column 6).

Method claims 9-13 correspond to apparatus claims 1-6. Therefore method claims 9-13 are rejected by the same reason as applied to apparatus claims 1-6.

7. Claims 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mori et al (5854873).

Regarding claim 7, Mori discloses a DVD player including a compressed data processing arrangement (Fig. 26).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maturi in view of Official Notice.

Maturi fails to teaches the compressed-data processing arrangement are arranged in a set top box.

However, using a compressed processing arrangement in a set top box is well known in the art. Therefore, official notice is taken and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Maturi with by using arranging the processing arrangement in a set top thereby enhancing the capacity of the processing arrangement of Maturi.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUY T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7378. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM -6:00PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Groody can be reached on (571) 272-7950. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

H.N

HUY NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER